

# HOWANI KANI

PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

Vol. 18, No. 11

Citizen Potawatomi Nation

November 1996

## Potawatomi health clinic opens doors



By GLORIA TROTTER

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Clinic will open its doors Dec. 3, welcoming tribal members and other Indians to the realization of a longtime dream.

The clinic, housed in a former church building just south of the tribal complex, will be operated by the tribe under contract with the Indian Health Service (IHS) as a result of the Indian Self-Determination Act. The Potawatomi tribe is one of many who have chosen to contract directly with the government for funding to offer health care to tribal members.

Joyce Abel, RN, Director of Health Services, will serve as administrator of the new clinic, assisted by Loretta Miller, RN, assistant director of Health Services. Almost all health services functions are now located in the same building, partially occupied by the Native American Center of Recovery, which has moved out.

Abel and her staff, including the community health representatives; the tribal pharmacy; the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program; child welfare; drug and alcohol counseling; and child care are all under the same roof, with only the Title

VI elderly meal program remaining at the Hardesty Road site.

The south wing of the building now houses the family and community services staff and WIC personnel (WIC has its own outside entrance). The north wing contains the pharmacy and examination rooms. The clinic will be tied into the IHS computer network, enabling patient files and other information to be accessed quickly.

Miller said the health services staff is "very excited" about finally operating a tribal clinic. Services will be similar to



Receptionists Jennifer Alderman And Kathy Powell Answer Telephones In New Facility

those offered at traditional IHS facilities: physicals, pre-natal and post-partum care; immunizations and therapeutic injec-

tions; mental health evaluations; diagnostic services; and family wellness.

Please turn to page 16



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# TRIBAL TRACTS



## Tapes Available

Cassette tapes of the music of the Orphan Family, pictured above, are now available at the museum gift shop, according to Esther Lowden who said many people requested the tapes after the group sang at the annual outdoor church service during pow-wow weekend. Four tapes are available at \$5 each: "The Orphan Family: Gospel Pow-Wow," "Orphan Family Singers: Smooth Sailing," "The Singing Orphan Family: In His Loving Arms" and "The Orphan Family: Spirit-Filled Believers." Also available is a videotape titled "The Orphan Family" at a cost of \$20. Call or write the museum gift shop to order.

## HOW·NI·KAN

PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

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## Language class held in Tulsa

A group of Potawatomis gathered Saturday and Sunday, October 5 and 6, to learn Potawatomi words and phrases. Mr. Walter Cooper taught the class. Mr. Cooper is a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and resides in Topeka, Kansas.

About 40 people present. They came from Texas, Colorado, Kansas, and Oklahoma to participate. The participants were members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma and Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation of Kansas. Mr. John R. Battese and daughter Ms. Martha Battese-Schmitt organized this effort. They notified the Potawatomis in the community. They held the language lessons in the home of Ms. Schmitt.

The class began with a prayer by Rev. Norman Kiker, introductions were made and then the Potawatomi language classes began. After the class, a traditional meal of deer meat, corn stew, fry bread, wild rice soup and grape dumplings was served. There was plenty of food for everyone.

The gathering of Potawatomi people with the common interest of the language was emotional for some participants. This was the first time some people had ever

### POTAWATOMI SPEAKERS

The Citizen Potawatomi Language Program is encouraging the development of Potawatomi communities similar to the one recently established in the Tulsa area. Should you find speakers in your area and they are concerned about preserving the Potawatomi language and might help with language classes in your area, please contact the Citizen Potawatomi Language Program. Give us the following information: the name of speaker, address (including the zip code) and telephone number, so that we may contact you. Thank you. You may contact me at 1-800-880-9880.

Norman Kiker, Director of Language

heard a Potawatomi word. Everyone visited with old friends and made new friends. Some people found relatives. The atmosphere was warm and friendly.

They have scheduled a second language class for the weekend of January 18 and 19, 1997. If you are interested in attending, please contact the Citizen Potawatomi Language Program, Suzanne Battese at 1-800-880-9880.

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation will evaluate any offer from its members who wish to bring a business opportunity to the Tribe which can benefit from Minority Status under Section 8(a) of the Small Business Administration. The conditions under which the business would operate must be:

1. The business must be owned 100% by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.
2. All activities including staffing, marketing, equipment, work space will be provided by the member with the proposal.
3. Adequate working capital must be provided by the member with the proposal.
4. All proceeds of sales will go into a "lock box" distribution account at First National Bank, Shawnee, Oklahoma, with payments made from this account to pay (1) all suppliers and accounts payable, (2) a Citizen Potawatomi Nation percentage of the gross margin, and then (3) the balance is paid to the tribal member.
5. The business must be of a type that is complimentary to the public image of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Please submit all offers which conform to the above standards to John "Rocky" Barrett, Citizen Potawatomi Nation. This offer is made to Citizen Potawatomi Nation members only.

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## Native American students sought for Harvard program

The Harvard University Native American Program is seeking Native Americans interested in joining our exciting, academically challenging, and culturally diverse community. The program is committed to recruiting and graduating students by providing them with the academic resources and community support necessary to succeed at Harvard and beyond. Approximately 120 Native Students currently attend Harvard University 45 at the undergraduate level and 75 at the graduate level.

This year the program expanded its academic and research components through the creation of a new course titled *Native Americans in the Twenty-First Century: Nation Building I and II*. Though this hands-on interdisciplinary course, students have an opportunity to work with Indian Nations and Tribes to address the challenges in Indian country today.

In addition, the thirteen schools and colleges of Harvard University offer a wide range of options in undergraduate, graduate, and professional education for prospective students.

Please call the Harvard University Native American Program at (617) 495-4923 to receive our brochure and a description of our new academic component. Prospective students can also reach us by e-mail (nap@hugse1.harvard.edu) or write to: Harvard University Native American Program, HGSE, Read House, Appian Way, Cambridge, MA 02138.

## Tecumseh chamber picks tribal leaders for board positions

Two Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal members are among three people elected to three year terms on the Tecumseh Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

Linda Capps, tribal vice chairman, and Bob Trousdale, deputy administrator, were two of the three community leaders elected from six nominees on the ballot. Unlike many chamber groups, Tecumseh Chamber of Commerce solicits nominations for board members from its membership. Anyone receiving at least three nominations appears on the final ballot, with the top three vote-getters winning election.

Capps, who is bid assistance coordinator at Gordon Cooper Vo-Tech, has served on the board in the past, but it will be Trousdale's first time. The nine-member board also includes Gloria Trotter, editor-publisher of The Countywide News Inc., which has helped publish the HowNiKan for a dozen years.

# PEOPLE OF THE FIRE ITEMS MARKED DOWN UNTIL EVERY ONE IS GONE!

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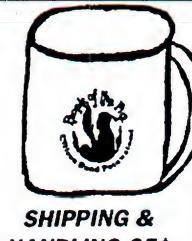
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# TRIBAL TRACTS

## Walking on ...

ANTHONY EDGAR LEVIER

Anthony (Tony) Edgar Levier died at Mission Hill Memorial Hospital in Shawnee, Oklahoma, on November 5, 1996. Mass was said at Our Lady of Snows Catholic Church on the Prairie Band Reservation and Anthony was taken to Shipshi Cemetery to rest.

Tony was born on May 31, 1925, on the Prairie Band Reservation near Mayetta, Kansas, but was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. He attended and graduated from Haskell Indian Institute. He was in the Marines and the Air Force for a total of 16 and a half years. Married to Jan Mzhickteno on June 8, 1966, they lived in Manhattan, Kansas. He was an electrician by trade. Thirteen years ago they moved to Shawnee and he worked for the Indian Action Program in the alcoholism program.

Tony is survived by his wife Jan of Shawnee; two sons, Terry Levier of Indiana and Martin Levier of Manchester, Kansas; one daughter, Peggy Lowe of Shawnee; two stepdaughters, Linda Hinojosa and Alice Dexter, both of Florida; 19 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. He had four brothers, Carl Levier from Topeka, Kansas; Danny McKinney from Mayetta, Kansas; Robert McKinney from Shawnee; and Glenn Levier from Topeka, Kansas; seven sisters, Rose Radford and Vivian M. Crowder, both of Manhattan, Kansas; Mavis Tsotaddle from Shawnee; Sharon Levier, Martha Valdivia and Bernadette Lewis from Topeka, Kansas; and Geraldine Pyzinski from New York.

He was the son of Peter Oliver Levier and Ellen (P-tis-saw) Lewis, grandson of Peter Lewis and Julia Ann Willmett (Jon-yon) and Joseph Levier and Martha Battese.

### GENEVA HARDIN

Lifelong Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma, resident Geneva Blanche Hardin of Shawnee died Oct. 8, 1996, in a Shawnee nursing home. She was 71. She was born September 9, 1925, in Wanette to Bruce and Blanche (Bergeron) Hardin. She graduated from Wanette High School. She had worked for Boeing Aircraft in Wichita, Kan., and had retired as a seamstress for Shawnee Garment Co.

She was a member of Calvary Baptist Church.

Surviving her are a brother, Bruce Hardin, Shawnee; three sisters, Laura Oakes, Mary Ann McMahan, both of Shawnee, and Ruth Lewis, Ardmore, and many other relatives. Her parents preceded her in death.

Burial was in Wanette Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Shawnee Hospice, Box 909, Shawnee OK 74801.



### A message from the chaplain...

by Rev. Norman W. Kiker

Bosho nishnabek nikanyuk,

Many of us have enjoyed and loved the company of Anthony Levier. It is a sad time. Anthony has gone on to join his ancestors. Please pray for Tony's wife Jan and their family as they work their way through this time of hurt.

Tony was very excited about the work on our language project. He helped us by participating in our first session on language. Tony sat in on language sessions with some of our elders, many of whom were old friends. He believed in helping others and did so in many ways other than language.

He will always be remembered by the many people he served in life, as well as those his life touched. He knew life and its many dangers, yet he took time enough to count its many blessings. He displayed a sort of time-taught wisdom that showed him a true and sure path to travel. I know we will all benefit from his example.

His faith was open for all the world to see — never hidden — and yet he was a quiet and humble man. I speak for myself and all those he touched when I say how fortunate we are to have walked with him in this life. Bamamena, Tony; we will see you later! Until then, we will all be much richer for knowing you.



### Portrait Of A Chief

This photograph, from the Smithsonian Institution collection, is identified as "Johnie Green, wife and grandchild." According to the caption, Green was "Chief of Pottawattamie Tribe — 1867." Note the dog sleeping peacefully at their feet.

### Being Different

Condemned for wearing braids in their hair  
Condemned for being breechcloth heir  
Looked down upon because of red skin  
And for being of savage kin

They wanted a peaceful way of life  
Instead they received pain and strife  
Riding ponies, hunting buffalo and living in tepees  
Raising children, caring for elders and working with beads  
Moving around from place to place  
Finding camp grounds became a race

Once their tranquil life was broken  
Anything else was but a token  
In a white-man designed life  
For the Native American brave and wife

Deborah C. Leichliter  
Tucson, Arizona



Oklahoma Tribal Leaders, Officials Pose For A Photograph In The Long Room During Babbitt's Visit

## Interior Secretary meets tribal leaders at Potawatomi headquarters Oct. 29

By GWEN E. KING

U.S. Secretary of Interior Bruce Babbitt met with leaders of all 39 Oklahoma Native American tribes Oct. 29 at Citizen Potawatomi Nation headquarters in Shawnee.

Babbitt held a closed-door meeting with Chairman John Barrett and other tribal leaders and officials during the visit. During a public reception which followed, he endorsed Darryl Roberts, the Democratic candidate for Congress from the Third District of Oklahoma, who a week later lost to Republican Wes Watkins, who represented the same district as a Democrat for 14 years before changing parties.

"This election is imperative because of what happened in 1994 when Newt Gingrich set out in an onslaught against reason, and against the very idea of maintaining reasonable support of health care, education and the environment," Babbitt said. "The results I don't need to lay out to you. We need to turn back the tide and elect Darryl Roberts."

In a brief address, Babbitt reiterated to tribal members a primary concern to Democrats is budget cut proposals made by members of the Republican house. He suggested those cuts should be questioned for motive. Babbitt said in one instance he was asked by a member of a Republican house committee to

supply a list of parks scheduled for closure. Babbitt replied he would not supply such a list.

"I have yet to meet a single American who says the problem with America is we have too many parks," Babbitt said.

He called the idea of closing federal parks only one of several "radical proposals" made by the current congress.

Babbitt praised President Clinton for reducing the deficit four years in a row for a total of \$100 million dollars. He added under the Clinton administration more than 12 million new jobs have been created. Under cuts proposed by the Republican party, programs which affect Native Americans would be cut severely, he said.

Babbitt also addressed the issue of Native American sovereignty and said Republican Senator Ernest Istook had submitted legislation which compromised the authority and integrity of sovereignty, and which sought to waive sovereignty of tribes through litigation.

"I think it's because ultimately they want to undermine the sovereign status of Native Americans in this country," Babbitt said.

Among the guests for the event were state Sen. Brad Henry and Oklahoma State Auditor & Inspector Clifton Scott.



Secretary Babbitt, Center, Poses With Chairman Barrett, Right, And His Wife Sheryl, Left



Chairman Barrett Addresses Assembled Guests



# IN YOUR OPINION...

## Tribal member raves about special course

My fellow tribal members, I am writing this article to inform you of an astounding course that I was privileged to take. It was the instructor's course for Project Blind Awareness. The course was taught by Carol Ann Liavos and Agatha Tutko at The Association for Research and Enlightenment at Virginia Beach, VA.

The course taught us how to become teachers to the blind, although the course material would apply to anyone. We learned that science had discovered that everything has an energy field that extends beyond the confines of the perceived body. This is an electromagnetic field that is produced by the movement of molecules and atoms.

We learned to teach the blind, how to feel this field and pick up any discrepancies in the field itself. We learned to teach the blind how to have the confidence to use their imagination and intuition to see what is not seen by them. This opened their awareness to the world around them. It creates a secure person when any knowledge is passed on. Both teacher and student benefit.

I learned how to conduct group relaxation techniques! This is primary and very needed when working with people that cannot see. Just imagine what a nervous wreck you would be if you lived in a world of darkness.

I learned how to teach people that are blind how to "see" colors. It does not take a nuclear physicist to understand the potential. The blind can become more mobile and have a more positive outlook on life.

Project Blind Awareness was started by Carol Ann Liavos back in the '70s. Her project has been written up in many newspapers and magazines. Some of them are: New York State Lion, Esotera, The Courier, Express Magazine, Alternatives and A.R.E. Community. These are just a few articles written about Carol's project. Project Blindness is even known of in Europe. All the articles that I have read praise the work that this project does for people with handicaps. Carol has a high success rate with this program.

Carol's address is Carol Ann Liavos, 1961 Niagra St. Buffalo, NY 14207, should anyone need it. My address is 115 Fort Virginia Beach, VA. 23451.

I am proud to be an instructor in this innovative, wonderful program, that helps the blind to see. I have learned many techniques to enhance the abilities of the handicapped. These techniques can be applied in a group or a single

student (s) setting. I am happy to be part of something that has over 20 years success, and the backing of its founder. How often does that happen anymore?

Please feel free to write me if you have any questions. As I stated earlier, I have enclosed copies of articles and a statistical analysis. These will be on hand with the HowNiKan. I hope all of you out there are as excited about this as I am. I wish you all peace and happiness.

Donal R. Williams  
Virginia Beach, VA

## Why should we speak Potawatomi?

*"History is from day to day:  
And it is not events;  
It is the progress of thought."  
— Alfred North Whitehead*

The time is right for Native Americans to step into leadership positions in this country — our country. Our culture and religion have much to offer in these chaotic times because they are reality based. Other beliefs come and go; many continually change trying to adapt their tenets to new discoveries in the nature and history of Earth. "The Sun is my father and the Earth is my mother." — Tecumseh.

But what is the purpose of "speaking" Potawatomi? The only results I can see if we all spoke Potawatomi would be separation, strife and tears. Isn't this what happens when groups speaking different languages live together in one country? Multi-culturalism in one country is a dream. I don't know of any country where it has worked. Even Canada will probably break up because of it. And then there's Bosnia and Palestine.

What we need in this country today is unity, not more separation. Soon the Mexicans will want to take the southwest back, the blacks will claim the southeast, the Cubans will want Florida, the Orientals will want the Pacific Coast and the Muslims already have most of Detroit. Is this what we want for our country? And it is our country!

Yes, let's document and preserve the language. Let's learn some of the beautiful, meaningful words and phrases and use them at special times to honor our beloved ancestors and keep them alive. But let's not determine to take our land back. We are no longer victims. Any one of us can go back to the Woodlands at any time, purchase land, live there. "Did not the Great Spirit put this land here for all his children?" — Tecumseh

Circumstances create change. The world has become so small that new

visions have become necessary, and because they are necessary they will occur. It's called evolution. Do we want to be part of the solution or part of the problem? We have to choose between leadership and respect or a renewed fight over the land.

*Humankind has not woven the web of life.  
We are but one thread within it.  
Whatever we do to the web, we do to  
ourselves.*

*All things connect.  
— Chief Seattle*

Helen Depel  
Oklahoma City, OK

## Reader searching for Vieux relatives

Dear Sirs,

My name is David Raymond "Tex" Sportsman. I was born David Raymond Johnson, on July 30, 1964. My father is David Phillip Johnson. He is Potawatomi. He and my mother, Claudia Jane (Chumley) Sportsman, divorced when I was young. He is from Oklahoma, but met and wed my mother in Tulsa.

I have a younger brother whose name is Robby Vieux. When we were infants, my father gave us a book, telling us of one of our grandfathers, Chief Louis Vieux. He was born in 1809 on the shores of Lake Michigan, and later moved with the tribe to Kansas. I believe that he died there in 1872.

My brother was born at an Indian Hospital in Norman, Oklahoma. I was born in California. I have recently begun trying to find my father, and his family. I was given your address because I believe my father is enrolled and still living. If this is the case, I would very much like to get in touch with him, and

any family members which I may have on his side of the family.

I am sure that you are not able to give the names and addresses of tribal members, but if you could forward this letter to my father, or any other family member, I would be grateful. This is very important to me. I hold no grudges toward my father, but only want to meet him, and any family members I may have.

Here is my home address: David "Tex" Sportsman, 116 Meadow Lane, Schertz, TX 78154. Here is my E-mail address: touchsky@world-net.net

I have been trying to find information on my father, and the Potawatomi people, via the Internet. I have found some helpful information, and was led on this path, to your tribal paper, by someone which I have spoken to via computer.

Again, thank you in advance for your assistance in helping me to find my father. I am looking forward to any reply which may come of this.

Sincerely,

David Raymond "Tex" Sportsman  
Schertz, Texas

## And yet another information request

This is a request for information of Maggie Stevens formerly of RFD-7 (I think) Box 419, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801. She was the granddaughter of one of my grandfathers: Nah-Nim-Nuck-Skuk. Please write to Catherine Vieux Clinton, Apartment 8, 2101 S.W. Potomac Dr., Topeka, KS 66611-1456 or call (913) 357-0167 after 6 p.m.

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## IN YOUR OPINION...

# Tribal member participates in human rights conference

Tribal member Ben Rhodd Jr. of Hill City, S.D., was invited to participate in a Human Rights Conference in Königswinter, Cologne, Germany from October 8-11, 1996.

The conference was proposed and sponsored by the German Liberal Democratic Party which is sponsored internally by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation. Ben is the son of tribal elder Ben G. Rhodd and Margaret Nelson Rhodd (Choctaw) (deceased) of rural Tecumseh, Oklahoma. Ben Jr. has lived and worked in South Dakota for the past twenty-four years and is involved in a variety of programs, both administrative and traditional, among the Lakota Nations.

As part of his work as Chairman of the Board of Directors of a community based program titled "Rural America Initiatives" in Rapid City, S.D. he was recommended to represent Native American concerns about human rights issues at this conference. He and Canadian Member of Parliament Elijah Harper, a Cree-Ojibway, were selected to jointly represent North America. They were brought together in conjunction with five representatives came from South America, two of which were from Guatemala, one from Honduras, one from Brazil, and the other from Paraguay.

Indigenous and minority representatives came from a total of twenty-three assemblages from over the entire world

and Europe. A distinction is made here for the world and Europe as several were from the continent of Europe who represented their distinctive minorities from within the borders of countries recognized as European states.

The first order of business conducted was recognition of the language barriers, both within the dialectic and the complexities of lexicon. A system of translation based on the order of the United Nations operation of transliteration was incorporated and utilized so all statements by participants were interpreted as accurately as possible. In the final resolution of this situation five translators were employed who performed admirably considering the conditions.

The basic issues and the questions asked by the Naumann staff included how could the developed countries of Europe assist in the process of ensuring equitable human rights for all indigenous/minority peoples. In addition, other dialogue was proposed encompassing individual, group, gender, legal, and political rights. Discussion developed around actual real life examples which prompted debate on how to address issues of inequality and the disparity of rights within systems of government.

Native American issues concerning treaties, water, hunting, fishing, resources (timbering, mining, etc.) housing, education, medical availability, and

education were supplied. Sovereignty and descriptions of autonomy within legislative efforts were also discussed. These issues raised many similar topics of discussion from other groups such as the New Zealand Maori and Australian Aborigine participants.

Internal European minorities such as the Northern Danish in Germany and the Swedish speaking peoples situated in Finland were examples of minorities without voice in political, educational, legal, and economic realms. The current problems from the Bosnian, Palestinian, Israeli Druze, Sudanese, and India-Naga peoples were presented by representative as not only legislative issues but what would constitute basic rights of humanity.

The conference provided a good forum and opportunity for indigenous and minority peoples to present their concerns to a political body not from their own countries. This is important due to some countries severely punishing anyone who asserts, makes declarations or raises questions about internal political policies.

As a case in point, the representatives from Burma presented an example of genocidal practices occurring as they said "even as we speak." They stated that as they left Burma, two days before (Oct. 7th) that 200 tribal people had been killed by the military but they had not heard not seen anything about this event anywhere on the television or

within the newspapers of Europe. They said that this was the usual case for their peoples and that the world did not know of the atrocities being committed in their country.

After such a declaration the North American representatives conferred and reached the conclusion that what was lacking in all spheres of discussion was a spiritual dimension to the proceedings. Elijah Harper spoke to the labors involved in coordinating the Spiritual Unity of the World Gatherings. Both are striving actively in this area and their statements to the overall assembled nations were given credence as a way to unify people in their efforts at defining human rights. Ben also presented the assembled representatives with Bahai literature (The Promise of World Peace; and Prosperity for Mankind) from the Universal House of Justice in Haifa, Israel.

All in all the conference was a success and with the representation of the "People of the Fire" and our traditional role as keepers of the peace we have truly stepped into courage in addressing these issues and providing a place for forum. They have proposed regional meetings for the future and will be contacting tribes for participation. A great thanks is sent to them for their assistance.

Megwetch.,

Ben Rhodd Jr.  
Hill City, SD

## OU Native American Studies Program graduates first class

The Native American Studies Program at OU recently graduated its first class, an historic event according to Clara Sue Kidwell (Choctaw/Chippewa from the Muskogee area), its director.

"We are extremely proud of not only the graduating class but also the overall growth and development of the NAS Program," she said. "It has come a long ways in terms of curriculum, faculty, recruitment, retention, and graduation over the past year. We now offer not only a core curriculum but also some cross-referenced classes in cooperation with other colleges and departments. Of most importance is the image we are building throughout the nation, state, local and tribal communities.

We are very excited about the language classes and the tribal focused seminars and workshops for this year. In time I expect the program to be one of the nation's finest not only in academics (research and instruction) but also instruction and services."

Program faculty include Barbara Hobson (Comanche from the Lawton area), assistant director, and Jerry C. Bread (Kiowa/Cherokee from the Carnegie area), outreach and recruitment. "People are hearing about the relevancy and quality of the NAS Program at OU," Hobson said. "We are very proud of this development and intend to enhance it with an offering of select speakers, exciting seminars and workshops, and stimulating colloquiums involving Indian and non-Indian professionals. Our enrollment has grown not only in numbers but also areas of interest and representation. We look forward to a rewarding year and even greater future for the NAS Program at OU."

Bread, a long time resident of Oklahoma and its Indian communities, is responsible for recruiting students and serving as liaison for the program. He is very anxious about the NAS program and excited about its long awaited progress at OU. "The Indian and non-Indian community have waited a long time for this type of academic development with focus on the American Indian. I see nothing but positive growth and respect for not only the NAS Program, but also the University of Oklahoma as a whole. Many scholars expect OU to be a leader in NAS areas. I am very positive

that we will eventually set the pace of academic development and numbers of graduates in NAS. I am delighted to be part of this historic setting and take my hat off to the OU administration, especially President David Boren for this development. One of the events we hope to offer later in the summer of '97 will be the David Boren Tribal Leadership Summit."

Bread also emphasized the development of student focused activities such as the Oklahoma American Indian Art Competition for high school seniors to be announced later.

Current NAS activities include, but are not limited to, the revitalization of the Sequoyah Club as a means to preserving native culture and educating majors about the contemporary

ceremonies of American Indians; researching and organizing a contemporary tribal leader summit; identifying and securing scholarships; developing and implementing internships in Indian related organizations; establishing communication networks with tribes, businesses, organizations, and other institutions of higher learning; and bringing NAS scholars to campus to interact with majors and the University community.

Anyone interested in participating or enrolling in the NAS Program may contact the director at 325-2312 or write the director at: Native American Studies Program, Dale Tower, Room 804, University of Oklahoma, 73019.



Bob Sorrell of Denver, Right, Won A Prize When He Was The First To Register For The Denver Regional Council. He Is Pictured With Chairman John A. Barrett, Left, And Regional Coordinator Penny Bishop, Center.



Jesse James McEarthron, Left, Enjoyed Coloring At The Council Meeting. He Is The Grandson Of Marlene Perez, A Descendant Of The Acton Family.

Marissa Christenson, Granddaughter Of Colene Hallowell Of Denver, Also Tried Her Hand At Coloring During The Meeting.



The Wisest Tribal Member At The Arvado, Colorado



The Youngest Enrolled Tribal Member, Calvin Bishop, 15-Month-Old, Checking Out The Stuffed Buffalo.



# onal Council t. 19, 1996



er At The Council Meeting Was  
ndson Of Penny Bishop. He's  
en To Him By Chairman Barrett.



uncil Meeting Was Sam McCollum,  
ho Is 76 Years Old.



Kathryn Lesser Of Glenrock, Wyoming, And  
Lela Acre Of Walsh, Colorado, Register For  
The Council Meeting.



Special Guests At The Council Were Gwen  
Minhas, Center, Oglala Lakota Tribal  
Member; Daughter Tany Minhas-Ball, Left;  
Jon Bishop, Right.



Barbara Pray, Left, And Son Rod Pray Of  
Denver Are Descendants Of Abraham Burnett.



Traveling The Longest Distance  
To Attend Were Brenda And Richard Wade  
Of Ogden, Utah, About 600 Miles From  
Denver. Richard Is A Descendant  
Of The Vieux Family.



## How to contact your Regional Office

### COLORADO

#### Penny Bishop

90 Meade Lane  
Englewood, CO 80110  
Local (303) 761-7021  
FAX (303) 761-1660  
Toll Free (800) 531-1140

### SOUTH TEXAS

#### Lu Ellis

26231 Huffsmith-Conroe Rd.  
Magnolia, TX 77355  
Local (281) 356-7957  
Toll Free (800) 272-7957

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

#### Jennifer J. Porter

5033 Vannoy Ave.  
Castro Valley, CA 94546  
Local (510) 886-4195  
Toll Free (800) 874-8585

### OREGON/IDAHO

#### Roscoe "Rocky" Baptiste

Box 346, 525 Ivy Ave.  
Gervais, OR 97026  
Local (503) 792-3744  
FAX (503) 792-3744  
Toll Free (800) 522-3744

### WASHINGTON

#### Susan Campbell

3523 Anthony Place South  
Seattle, WA 98144  
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FAX (206) 723-8055  
Toll Free (800) 722-8055

### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

#### Jeremy Bertrand Finch

203 Bellefontaine Street  
Pasadena, CA 91105  
Local (818) 796-2008  
FAX (800) 432-2008  
Toll Free (800) 432-2008

### NORTH TEXAS

#### Marjorie Hobdy

3132 Kathy Lane  
Irving, TX 75060  
Local (972) 790-3075  
Toll Free (800) 742-3075

### SOUTHWEST

#### Philonise Williams

20415 N. 29th St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85024  
Local (602) 569-3073  
FAX (602) 569-6935  
Toll Free (800) 452-8966

### MIDWEST

#### Maryann Welch-Frank

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Grandview, MO 64030  
Local (816) 761-2333  
Toll Free (800) 325-6639

# REGIONAL REPORTS

#### Bozho from Seattle!

It's hard to believe that another month has gone by and the holidays are drawing near. I begin by wishing you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a bright and healthy New Year! Rhian should be home from Alaska in plenty of time for Christmas; she's been working in a seafood processing plant, first on St. Paul in the Pribilofs then in Dutch Harbor, since mid September so it will be good to have her home again. And good to get together with the rest of the family as well.

Laura Welcher, a linguist living in Chicago and working on the Potawatomi language, and Suzanne Battese, who works with Laura and with Norman Kiker, were in Seattle in early October to meet with me and with Bill Moore, a Prairie Band Elder who runs the Kitsap County Indian Center in Silverdale and who is a Potawatomi speaker. We had a good visit with Bill and came away with some additional language materials that were used in language classes in Mayetta, KS. Watching Laura and Suzanne working with Bill, I know that the language program is in good hands. Their hope is that eventually there will be a new, workable Potawatomi dictionary. I look forward to seeing that come about.

The Indian Art Market and Salmon Bake will be taking place at Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center in Seattle

# WASHINGTON

#### SUSAN CAMPBELL

on December 7, 14, and 21 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (salmon bake from noon to 2 p.m.). This is a good place for doing your Christmas shopping — and to have lunch as well. The Center is located in Discovery Park.

The 10th annual Winter Pow Wow will be held January 10-12 at the University of Washington HUB Ballroom. Grand entry is at 7 p.m. Friday, 1 and 7 Saturday and 1 Sunday. This is a fun pow wow with lots of good vendors some fine dancing. It's open to the public so try to come!

The Tacoma Public Schools Indian Education Program is again hosting monthly pow wows on the first Saturday of the month. They are held at Mason Middle School, from now until spring. Grand entry is at 7:30 p.m.

There will be an introductory Potawatomi language class on November 19, 7 p.m. at the Kitsap County Indian Center, 2222 NW Bucklin Hill, Silverdale WA. I will be calling all who returned the language survey slips at the last Regional meeting as well as

those with whom I've spoken about language. If you miss the class — this is short notice, I know — and would like to come to the next, PLEASE call me in the office and I'll fill you in on date and time. Also, don't feel as if you will fall behind if you missed the first class; the format will be relaxed and social and you will be able to catch up. My thanks go to Bill Moore, who has agreed to work with us.

It was so good to see Leo and Ida Nadeau when they were in Seattle. Leo and I are cousins so we had a lot to talk about while tracing down our family tree. I enjoyed sharing some of Seattle's local scenery with them and the weather cooperated for a change; it was absolutely gorgeous! I look forward to our next visit. Leo taught me how to make traditional Potawatomi corn soup while he was here, even bringing the corn, and it is so good! I'll definitely be making it again.

Please remember Tim Vance and his family in your quiet time. Tim was involved in an automobile accident and is facing several months of recovery from a serious leg injury.

And remember as well the family of Inez Goenour, who walked on during October. I had an opportunity to meet her and had spoken with her several times by phone. She was a special lady.

Until next time, have a good month — and keep in touch!

Susan Campbell

#### Bourzho From Kansas City,

I hope everyone has marked their calendars for May 17, 1997 for our next regional council meeting. The location will be announced in the near future.

On October 23 we had some very unusual weather, an 8 inch snowstorm that caused a lot of damage to trees and property and left thousands of people without electrical power. Some people were left without power for over a week. As far as I know this was the first time that something like this has happened in our area this early in the year.

It really looked strange to see the heavy snow falling on the green grass and the fully leaved trees. The weight of the heavy wet snow literally snapped of branches, split and uprooted trees, snapping power lines sending trees toppling on the roads, cars, and houses. It was quite a strange sight to drive almost anywhere in the city and seedyards, sidewalks and roads filled with tree limbs, not to mention the danger of downed power lines. Power crews were

# MIDWEST

#### MARYANN WELCH-FRANK

called in from around the country to help restore power. Clean up crews worked around the clock. I felt very fortunate to have only lost power for about 12 hours and we had no property damages from the snowstorm. A big thank you goes out to a lot of people who pitched in to help out.

Please note that the Kansas City office does have a fax number. It is (816) 761-2333. It is the same number as the local office number. If you need to fax something, let the message greeting play first, start sending your fax and it will go after the fax tone is acknowledged.

I received some information from tribal member Peggy Kinder about the American Indian Heritage Association of Kansas City. They have recently gotten their home page up and running. Their address is <http://www.sunflower.org/naihake>. The homepage consists of information about their not for profit organization, dances and they have a schedule of events of various American Indian organizations. Peggy says they would like to service other Indian organizations as well. They welcome anyone anywhere to send them information about dances, benefits, classes, etc. They will put your event on the internet at no cost. Their mailing address is 6004 N. Michigan Gladstone, MO 64118.

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE!

Megwetch,

MaryAnn Welch Frank

# REGIONAL REPORTS

## SOUTHWEST

PHILONES WILLIAMS

Brouzh NICONE

Fall has fallen! It is the time of the year when you fling open all the doors and windows and let all the fresh air in. The air is so crisp and smells so wonderful, reminds me of when I was a child running through the leaves my brothers raked, but that was oh, so long ago.

A lot of things going around here, but by the time I hear of them and get them in the paper, and receive your paper, the event is long gone. I will tell you this, however. Sammy White, also known as Tonekhi, is moving back to Oklahoma. We will miss him, but he will be back for visits.

There is an interesting place here I go to when I am lonesome for the drum. It is called RAWHIDE, and when you get past the midway of cowboys and old west, you will find a Native American Village. There are drums and Eagle Dancer Hoop Dancers and Native artisans working at their crafts. Once a day they bake bread in a adobe oven, and it comes out piping hot. You buy a loaf and sit there and eat it—oh, so good.

I'm sure you are all getting ready or already had the big turkey day. All of us have a lot to be thankful for no matter what our situation in life. The fact that we arise to a new day each morning is a blessing itself. We should use them to make new memories for the next year. Anyway, enjoy the good food and the friends and family gathered round, and the long weekend.

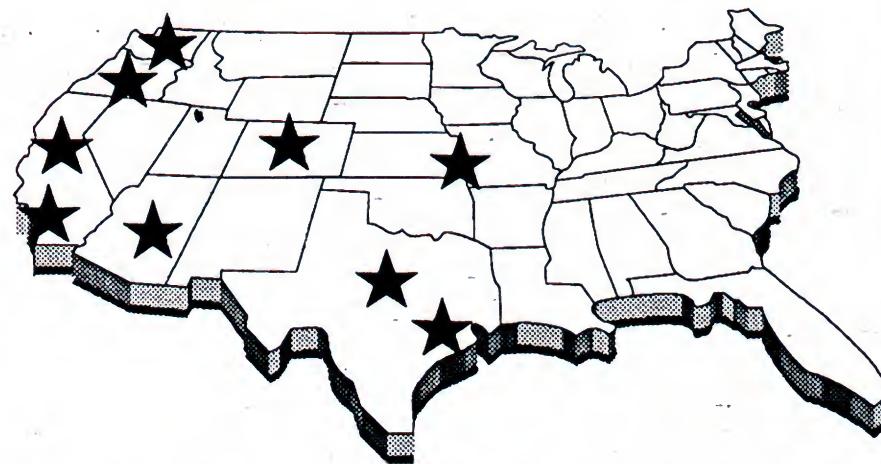
Not much happening on the party line. Give me a call once in a while if just to talk. I'm here to help and try to answer your question to the best of my ability.

Read this the other day, thought I'd pass it on: Remember life is what is happening to you when you are busy making other plans! Hope they include plans for February 8th. See you then. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Megwetch,

Philonise Williams

## Regional Councils



### Remaining Regional Councils In the 1996-97 Series:

<i>Southern California</i> .....	<i>Jan. 18</i>
<i>Phoenix</i> .....	<i>Feb. 8</i>
<i>Northern California</i> .....	<i>March 8</i>
<i>Houston</i> .....	<i>March 22</i>
<i>Seattle</i> .....	<i>April 19</i>
<i>Portland</i> .....	<i>April 20</i>
<i>Kansas City</i> .....	<i>May 17</i>

Bourzho, Niconi,

Tomorrow, November 5, I will vote and be quite happy to have no more commercials, discussions, etc. to bring confusion and negativity to my days! Actually, it has been interesting to listen to people express their views on various issues. The various measures and initiatives we vote on do cause us to use our brains in a different way. Regardless of the outcome, I think the Creator has everything in order.

Congratulations to Jolene Blanchard, my niece. She was the Native American Princess at Selma High School's (15 mile south of Fresno) Homecoming. They have a program there to encourage tribal young people to celebrate their heritage. Jolene, you are a beautiful bright star among us.

Megwetch, Harold Pearce, for your warm letter and information on another way to make baskets. It's good to know that you and your family enjoyed the picnic and want to do it again. I certainly look forward to a repeat.

What else is new — I have had calls from people of other tribes just wanting general information. It is interesting to me that some of them are so surprised that I am happy to help. It seems to me if you are given some little bit of knowledge, you should be willing to share it.

We have our Regional Council Meeting on March 8th. I believe we will be in Livermore again. When I checked into

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

JENNIFER J. PORTER

other venues in Sacramento, I could find nothing yet that meets our needs at a reasonable price for our large number. Indeed, many places were already booked, so it is important to get our date locked in. I will continue to look at other locations in the meantime. Livermore is pretty central to our region. Someday I would like to visit your libraries and see what is available to you on our history and culture. I have a couple of lists of books and papers and have actually found quite a few listed locally. Also, I found a video under "North American Indians: Potawatomi" and have ordered it to include in the library I hope to develop as time and money allows.

That's about it for this month. Please call me if you need information or forms if you just want to chat about the tribe or "whatever"!

Megwetch,

Jennifer J. Porter

## NORTH TEXAS

MARJORIE HOBDY

Our Northern Texas Regional Meeting was Saturday, Nov. 9. If you were unable to attend, we missed you and hope you will be able to set aside this time next year to be at our meeting.

Chairman Rocky Barrett told us about the third "Gathering of the Nations" in Michigan, August 29-September 1. Several of the tribal members had expressed their interest in attending the next Gathering which our tribe will be hosting in Shawnee August 21-24, 1997. Chairman Barrett informed us that he wanted a good attendance of our tribe in Shawnee as he is expecting the other tribes to bring members with them. I'm excited about going and learning about the other tribes and nations and hope you will make plans to be there, also. What an opportunity for all of us. More information will be in the HowNiKan.

I hope you were able to attend some of the special events during November in celebration of Native American Heritage Month. Thanksgiving, as always, will be a time for reflections on the reason for this celebration and always mindful of the beginning where the Native Americans played such a large part.

Most of us no longer raise or hunt our dinner. The local grocery store is where I do my seeking and gathering. But the reason is still the same, an opportunity to think about the many blessings that have been bestowed on us.

Some of us have suffered more tribulations than others during this past year, but if we can find one thing to be grateful for, it's one building block and we can start from there.

It has been a good year for me and I am truly grateful for that. Hope you have or had a blessed Thanksgiving with your family and/or friends.

Now on to Christmas.

Marj Hobdy

# REGIONAL REPORTS

Haw, Nikanes,  
Ni je Na Gin?  
Anwa shi za na ( I am getting along  
fine).

Week mo en, ka yam git. (It's going to  
rain, kind of cool).

Did you have a good giving thanks  
ceremony with your family and friends?

We are much blessed this year.

We have known some sorrow, we  
have lost some family and friends; it  
was with sad heart that we learned of  
the passing of our friend and helper Mr.  
Tony Levier. He touched our lives in  
very profound ways, and he will be  
missed by many. We send our condo-  
lences to his family; his walk on the  
Blue Path will be rewarding.

Mostly though, all who have been ill  
are recovered, and those who had acci-  
dents and surgery are well again, and  
new little ones are among us! The circle  
continues, we as family and tribe grow  
and prosper and see our dreams come  
true in the renewed interest in language  
and culture, in growth and love, and we  
rejoice and give thanks!

The creator continues to guide and  
protect us. Mother Earth continues to  
feed and clothe us. The Spirit continues  
to heal and encourage us. We continue  
to bind ourselves together in the work  
we have before us, so the seventh gen-  
eration will thrive. Remember that work  
when you put your tobacco down.

"Daddy John" had his 90th birthday  
in November. We were able to be with  
him and my mother, tribal member  
Evelyn Whipple, to celebrate that mo-  
mentous event. They have been mar-  
ried 67 years, and have a family proud  
to be Indian (his mother was born on



Chief Oscola (Clayton Sylestine, Alabama Coushatta) and Chief Rebecca Torres (Alabama Quassarte) with Resolution of Friendship from the Potawatomi.

## SOUTH TEXAS

LU ELLIS

the Cherokee Reservation in North  
Carolina), and proud to call them par-  
ents, grandparents and great-grandpar-  
ents. We know we are lucky to have  
them with us still.

In the month of October, in Texas,

we observed Native American Week,  
on the 14th through the 20th. We took  
advantage of this occasion to renew our  
friendship with the Alabama Coushatta  
Tribe with a resolution from the Citizen  
Potawatomi Nation, and celebrated this  
week of festivities on their reservation.  
The Chief, Clayton Sylestine, and the  
Second Chief, Clem Sylestine, were  
pleased with the resolution, and the  
traditional bundle gifted to them, and  
they received them with warm friend-  
ship and respect for our people. They  
said to you, "Potawatomi people, we  
thank you."

We also met the Chief and some of  
the Council from the Alabama

Quassarte for Tribal Town, Henryetta,  
Oklahoma. In the photograph are Chief  
Oscola (Clayton Sylestine, Alabama  
Coushatta) and Chief Rebecca Torres  
(Alabama Quassarte) with the Resolu-  
tion of friendship from the Potawatomi.

When you read this letter, you will  
be preparing for the Christmas Season,  
in all the ways we do that. Our wish for  
you is that you are surrounded with the  
love of family and friends, enjoy good  
health, a safe holiday season, and a new  
year, prosperous and full of success in  
whatever your goals may be.

Be good to each other.  
Pa Ma Me Na

Lu Ellis

Bourzho Niconi, (Hello Friends),  
I am well, Ne-Je-Na? (How are you?)

It is election day all over the United  
States and I hear on the radio and TV  
that everyone should vote. It is our  
duty and a privilege we carry as citi-  
zens of this country. Now, I know we  
are citizens because we were made citi-  
zens by the United States Government  
many years ago. So I hope that you are  
all out there today to let the people hear  
the Indian vote. Slowly they are trying  
to take away the rights and everything  
our grandfathers and great-grandfa-  
thers fought and suffered to give us.

Yes, and while I'm on the subject of  
voting, let's not let another year go by  
where we forget to request our ab-  
sente ballot to vote in our tribal election.  
We should all be ashamed, if we did not  
vote last year. YOUR VOTE DOES  
COUNT.....YOU COUNT.....I believe  
that you will be able to request an ab-

## OREGON IDAHO

ROCKY BAPTISTE

sente ballot at our regional meeting  
coming up in April this next year. I  
hope to see more people attend and all  
of the members from last year to en-  
courage your relatives and other mem-  
bers to attend. Remember, your chil-  
dren and spouses are welcome to come  
also.

The pow-wows are still going on  
and we have some of the colleges still  
having their cultural pow-wows. I will

be attending a couple this month so  
maybe I will see you there.

It is close to the holidays and time for  
folks to start their Christmas shopping,  
and time for some of us to sell our arts  
and crafts, so I have a couple places you  
may be interested in. The Song Basket  
Marketplace in Grande Ronde has been  
advertising for Native American art-  
work for their store. They take consign-  
ment items in for a 25% commission. I  
will be paying the initial fee to enter  
items, so if you artists out there have  
anything you would like to enter, call  
me and we can put them in under the  
Potawatomi Nation. Right now they  
are open on Saturday, Sunday, and  
Monday only, but have hopes of open-  
ing more nearer the holidays. Also, for  
those of you nearer Burns area, Lana's  
consignment Shop at 408 W. Monroe in  
Burns, Oregon is wanting Indian arts  
and crafts. You can call her for more

information at (541) 573-2835.

My office hours are shorter now that  
winter is here, so be sure you leave a  
message on the machine. I know you  
hate to talk to a machine but I will  
answer your calls and hopefully be able  
to help in whatever area your needs  
are. Keep up with the language, hope-  
fully something will be out from Shaw-  
nee soon in the form of a workbook or  
something. Until then tell your kids to  
learn the few we have. Pa Ma Pe (see  
you later)

Megwich,

Rocky Baptiste

Tell your people that since the Great  
Father promised that we should never be  
removed, we have been moved five times. I  
think you had better put the Indian on  
wheels so you can run them about wherever  
you wish.

— Anonymous Chief (1876)

# REGIONAL REPORTS

The 1996 Denver Regional Council Meeting held on October 19 at the Holiday Inn in Lakewood, Colorado, is now only a "sweet memory." A group of Tribal members and guests gathered together to hear about current tribal issues and legends from Chairman Rocky Barrett, to exchange family history, shop with Esther, visit and break bread in true traditional Indian style. What fun to see all of the familiar faces that I've grown so fond of. It was great to catch up with family news of births, marriages, deaths, and the usual run of the mill gossip.

Special recognition of most miles went to Richard and Brenda Wade of North Ogden Utah. Youngest registered tribal member again for the second consecutive year was 15-month-old Calvin Bishop of Denver, Colorado. Sam McCullom was honored again this year as the oldest and wisest man present. Recognized for attendance at all 11 meetings was Kathy Leisher of Glenrock, Wyoming, and Sam McCullom, Margaret Dunkle, and myself of Denver metro. Bob Sorrell was the first person to make reservations for this year's regional.

The raffle was great fun again this year. The ladies ribbon work shawl was won by Martha Sue Findley of Littleton, Colorado. Joe Bishop of Mountain View, Colorado, won the beautiful beaded belt buckle. Ken McCall of Wiggins, Colorado, had the winning ticket for the set of Jack Wooldridge's Potawatomi children's stories. Lu and John Haskew of Loveland, Colorado, brought Rocky his special yearly chocolate cake.

Congress passed American Indian Heritage Month Act, Public Law 101-343, on August 3, 1990, designating November to honor America's first inhabitants. At the end of the summer I was asked to put up a display of miscellaneous Native American ribbonwork, bead work, quilt work at Arapahoe County's Koelbel Library. My good friend Sandra Yellowfish Gellegos, a Comanche from Oklahoma, and I gathered our personal items, and installed the display November 1. It will be open to the public during the month of November.

In traditional Indian culture, the elders are the most respected members of society. The tribal elders are considered, because of their life's experiences, to be the most important of teachers. On November 5, 1996, the Potawatomi Nation lost one of its traditional tribal elders, Anthony "Tony" Levier. I didn't know Tony well, only to know who he was when I saw him. He always had a smile, and was very polite. This summer he gave me a special and treasured gift, a Potawatomi language book. I'll never know why he singled me out to receive this very special gift. I shall surely miss Tony, his smile, his politeness and his knowledge. His passing reiterated just how important it is to take time to get to know our elders, to learn and listen about our past, so that we can pass on the culture and traditions to those who come after us.

Until next time,

Penny Bishop

I am still looking for people in the Denver Region who are interested in Potawatomi language classes. Interest in all areas is most welcome. Give me a call.

# COLORADO

PENNY BISHOP

## Tribes hoping for the best in aftermath of the election

Bourzho Nicon  
(Hello my friends),

This is my first column since the Oklahoma and national election and we are all "bruised up" from the battle. We can only hope that the candidates we supported will keep their promises, or at least vote the way they spoke during the election. As for those Oklahoma elected to the U.S. Congress, I only hope my fears were unfounded since none of the candidates backed by the Potawatomi got elected.

I don't think they lost because we backed them. I hope they run again. I pray that the newly elected representatives of Indian people in Oklahoma will remember that we live here too. We only want the same things that all people in Oklahoma want — a better life for our elders and children. We do not want this, however, at the expense of our heritage. Our people gave up a great deal to win the sovereign rights we now enjoy. The dual citizenship that Citizen Potawatomi enjoy is not a "special privilege," it is a right we have as a result of huge loss of life, land and prosperity by our forefathers. Please remember that, you that serve in Congress.

In this issue of the HowNiKan there is a letter from Helen Depel of Oklahoma City. She asks why we would want to speak Potawatomi since so much social strife has resulted from more than one language being spoken in the world. That is a good question. Here is why we should learn to speak Potawatomi:

1. We are a unique people in the world. We have been given the gift of our own language,



## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

BY JOHN A. BARRETT JR.

art, culture, customs, and history. Without the ability to use our language, we cannot understand these gifts since our tradition is oral history. The many who still speak the language say that much of the spirit of what they say is lost in the translation to English.

2. The language is more than just a way to communicate with each other. It is a symbol of our heritage. It is one of the essential elements that makes us a people — the very "tie that binds us." It is a beautiful and lyrical language that gladdens the heart to speak it.

3. We will not abandon our ability to speak English. Since most of us were born to and educated in the English language, we will never lose it. The ability to speak Potawatomi as a second tongue will in no way diminish our ability to speak English. Nor will it be a source of strife with our neighbors as Ms. Depel illustrates in her letter. All of the examples she uses are circumstances where one language group wishes to impose their language on another living in the same territory. We do not wish to impose Potawatomi on our area. On the contrary, we may even wish to reserve it for our own use in song, prayer,

humor, and fellowship. It may even be the element that our young people are seeking as a means of identifying themselves. It may even be the very gift that elders give their children and grandchildren for which they are remembered. It may even be the way we discover the value of our traditional beliefs of sharing, kindness and respect for our elders, honor for our women, and protection for our young.

In a nutshell, Ms. Depel, we should speak Potawatomi because we need a sense of COMMUNITY. We need to be a part of something of value, we need to have more to our lives than our steel belted radials and microwave ovens and soap opera dreams. The blood that flows in our veins contains the elements that flowed in the veins of a people who had a country of their own with an elected government when London had dirt streets and grass roofs. We were and are a noble people. Our language is a means of remembering and honoring that.

Megwetch,

John Barrett

The HowNiKan welcomes contributions from its readers, especially letters to the editor and news of achievements of tribal members. Please mail your submission to Mary Farrell at tribal headquarters. Deadline is the 5th of the month.

# North Texas Regional Council *Nov. 9, 1996*



*The youngest enrolled tribal member present was Brad Johnson, 7, of Trophy Club, Texas, pictured above with Chairman John A. Barrett*



*Margaret Keplinger of Dalhart, Texas, received the gift for traveling the longest distance (about 500 miles) for the meeting. It was also her first regional meeting.*



*Among those attending were Jason, Robert and Travis Scott of Flowermound, Texas, descendants of the Ogee family.*



*Above: Secretary-Treasurer Gene Bruno posed for a photo with his cousin Vivian Murphy and her daughter Michelle of Richardson, Texas*



*Above: Committeeman Hilton Melot poses with Bill and Dianna Richey from Desoto, Texas*

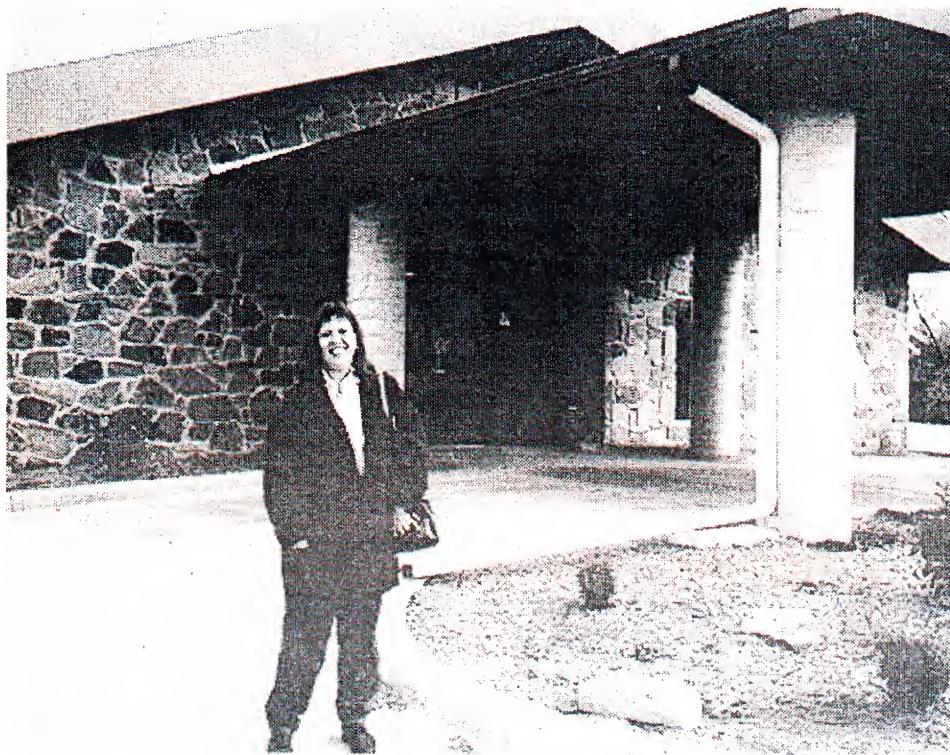
**All Photos By  
Vice Chairman Linda Capps**

*Below: Committeeman Jerry Paul Motley and Regional Coordinator Marjorie Hobdy smile at the camera.*



*Below: Chairman Barrett greets tribal member Joe Dorries of Irving, Texas*





WIC Director Shelley Schneider Outside Her New Quarters

## Local doctors, Mission Hill Hospital to provide additional medical care

Continued from Page 1

"That's what we're working toward," Miller said, "and we take the holistic approach."

Helping provide those services, in addition to the RNs and previous staff, will be nurse practitioner Elizabeth Meyers-Bartos, who began her medical career as an LPN, completed Oklahoma Baptist University's four-year RN program and has now completed nurse practitioner certification, which is a master's degree in family practice. Under new law taking effect Jan. 1, nurse practitioners may treat patients and write prescriptions under the authority of a physician, but not necessarily with direct supervision.

Meyers-Bartos will, when necessary, refer patients to Dr. Keith Conaway and Dr. David Hadley, family practitioners in the Shawnee-Tecumseh area. Support services such as ultrasound, x-ray, EKGs and lab work will be provided by Mission Hill Memorial Hospital under an agreement with the tribe.

Tribal Chairman John A. Barrett stressed that the Potawatomi Clinic is an expansion of the health care available to area Indians. The IHS Clinic currently located between the Potawatomi clinic and administration building on Absentee Shawnee land will continue to serve any Native American who wishes to use, as will clinics in Little Axe, Stroud, Wewoka and even Oklahoma City.

"We've added our clinic to the area clinics that have always had an 'open door' policy," Barrett said. "We're simply contracting with IHS for the Potawatomi share of the Shawnee service unit for direct services to Indians who are not indigenous to the Potawatomi reservation. We will have the same 'open door' policy."

Barrett said that the tribal health services staff have learned that many tribal members "were not comfortable with the clinic environment provided by the IHS clinic. For that reason, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is choosing to provide additional clinic services to all Indian people in the area, but with the specific intent to provide service to Potawatomis who want to be seen by their own tribal health providers.

"For those of you who may have had a negative experience in the healthcare guaranteed to us by our treaty rights in specific acts of Congress at the Shawnee service unit of IHS," Barrett added, "we invite you to try our facility and extend a special welcome to area Potawatomi people."

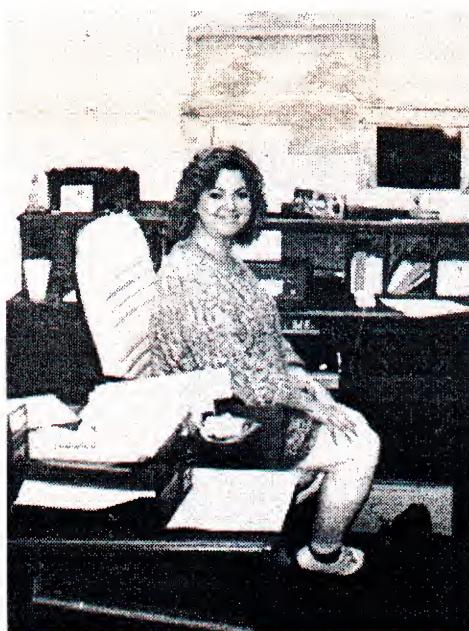


Dr. Conaway

Dr. Hadley



Nurse Practitioner Elizabeth Meyers-Bartos In Examination Wing



Sheila Scott, Intake



Tammy Wood (Front), Chris Wheeler

### SERVICES HOUSED IN CPN CLINIC:

- Community Health Representatives
- Women, Infants & Children (WIC)
- Family & Community Services
- Child Welfare
- Drug & Alcohol Counseling
- Child Care

### Staff Now Located In The Clinic:

#### Health Services

Joyce Abel, RN, Director  
Loretta Miller, RN, Asst. Director  
Elizabeth Meyers-Bartos, RN, Nurse Practitioner

Thelma Campbell, RV, CHR  
Christine Wood, CHR Field Specialist

Judith A. Wood, LPN

Anita Harjo, Receptionist

Darryl Tiger, Janitor

#### WIC

Shelley A. Schneider, Director  
Jackie N. Paxson, WIC Specialist

Openia S. Hadjiconstantin, WIC Specialist

Tammy L. Wood, WIC Specialist  
Kenna S. Campbell, WIC Voucher Checker

#### Community & Family Services

Christine Wheeler, WIC Data Entry  
Cheryl Richardson, Nutritionist  
Alicia Edwards, WIC Receptionist  
Jennifer O'Connor, Receptionist  
Vangeline Wood, Receptionist

Shirl Hubert, Substance Abuse Coordinator  
Donnette Littlehead, Child Care Coordinator

Kathy Powell, Secretary/Health Aids Foundation  
Rick Short, ICW Worker

Wayne F. Stark, Counselor

#### Contract Health

Marla Taylor, Director  
Sheila Scott, Medical Records Clerk

#### Pharmacy

John J. LaReau